

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Stefan Schreck)	Group Art Unit: 3738
)	
Application No.: unknown)	Examiner: unknown
)	
Filing Date: Herewith)	
)	
For: Minimally-Invasive Heart Valves)	
with Wireforms)	
)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O.Box 1450
Washington, D.C. 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

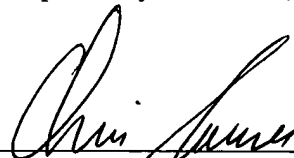
Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth under 37 CFR § 1.97, Applicant encloses the attached form PTO/SB/08. Pursuant 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) copies of the listed references are not being submitted herewith because they were previously cited or submitted to the U.S. Patent Office in prior applications Serial No. 10/185,812 and 09/549,413, upon which the present application relies for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

No fee is believed due; however, if a fee is due please charge to Deposit Account No. 501225 (ECV-5541DIVCON).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated January 28, 2004



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CUSTOMER NO. 30452

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on January 28, 2004 the above-identified document (along with any identified papers referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage in an Express Mail envelope, Mailing Label No. EV337120945US addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: 

Melissa Sanchez

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Unassigned
				Filing Dat	Unassigned
				First Named Inventor	Schreck, Stefan
				Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	4	Attorney Docket Number	ECV-5541DIV CON

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number – Kind Code ² (If known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	AA	US-2001/0002445 A1	05/31/2001	Vesely
	AB	US-2001/0007956 A1	07/12/2001	Letac et al.
	AC	US-2001/0021872 A1	09/13/2001	Bailey et al.
	AD	US-3,839,741	10/08/1974	Haller
	AE	US-4,056,854	11/08/1977	Boretos et al.
	AF	US-4,084,268	04/18/1978	Ionescu et al.
	AG	US-4,477,930	10/23/1984	Totten et al.
	AH	US-4,506,394	03/26/1985	Bedard
	AI	US-4,592,340	06/03/1986	Boyles
	AJ	US-4,960,424	10/02/1990	Grooters
	AK	US-4,994,077	02/19/1991	Dobben
	AL	US-5,067,957	11/26/1991	Jervis
	AM	US-5,163,953	11/17/1992	Vince
	AN	US-5,332,402	07/26/1994	Teitelbaum
	AO	US-5,370,685	12/06/1994	Stevens
	AP	US-5,397,351	03/14/1995	Pavcnik et al.
	AQ	US-5,411,552	05/02/1995	Andersen et al.
	AR	US-5,486,193	01/23/1996	Bourne et al.
	AS	US-5,489,296	02/06/1996	Love et al.
	AT	US-5,531,785	07/02/1996	Love et al.
	AU	US-5,545,209	08/13/1996	Roberts et al.
	AV	US-5,545,214	08/13/1996	Stevens
	AW	US-5,549,665	08/27/1996	Vesely et al.

*Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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				Examiner Name		Unknown
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number – Kind Code ² (If known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	AX	US-5,554,185	09/10/1996	Block et al.
	AY	US-5,571,174	11/05/1996	Love et al.
	AZ	US-5,582,607	12/10/1996	Lackman
	BA	US-5,607,465	03/04/1997	Camilli
	BB	US-5,669,919	09/23/1997	Sanders et al.
	BC	US-5,674,279	10/07/1997	Wright et al.
	BD	US-5,682,906	11/04/1997	Sterman et al.
	BE	US-5,695,515	12/09/1997	Orejola
	BF	US-5,716,370	02/10/1998	Williamson, IV et al.
	BG	US-5,716,399	02/10/1998	Love
	BH	US-5,728,153	03/17/1998	Menkis et al.
	BI	US-5,824,064	10/20/1998	Taheri
	BJ	US-5,840,081	11/24/1998	Andersen et al.
	BK	US-5,855,601	01/05/1999	Bessler et al.
	BL	US-5,855,603	01/05/1999	Reif
	BM	US-5,957,949	09/28/1999	Leonhardt et al.
	BN	US-5,980,570	11/09/1999	Simpson
	BO	US-5,984,959	11/16/1999	Robertson et al.
	BP	US-6,074,418	06/13/2000	Buchanan et al.

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	T ⁶
		Office Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (If known)		
	BQ	WO	96/19159		06/27/1996	
	BR	WO	96/40006		12/19/1996	
	BS	WO	97/09947		03/20/1997	
	BT	WO	97/09949		03/20/1997	
	BU	WO	97/46177		12/11/1997	
	BV	WO	99/30646		06/24/1999	
	BW	WO	99/33414		07/08/1999	
	BX	WO	99/53869		10/28/1999	
	BY	WO	99/56665		11/11/1999	
	BZ	WO	00/41652		07/20/2000	
	CA	WO	00/44313		08/03/2000	
	CB	WO	00/45874		08/10/2000	
	CC	WO	00/47139		08/17/2000	
	CD	WO	00/48533		08/24/2000	
	CE	WO	01/52775	A1	07/26/2001	
	CF	WO	01/54625	A1	08/02/2001	
	CG	WO	01/56512	A1	08/09/2001	
	CH	EP	0 103 546	B1	04/05/1988	
	CI	EP	0 362 113	B1	04/14/1993	
	CJ	EP	0 532 678	B1	05/08/1996	
	CK	EP	0 804 911	A2	11/05/1997	
	CL	EP	0 850 607	A1	07/01/1998	
	CM	EP	1 057 460	A1	12/06/2000	

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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		Office Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (If known)		
	CN	EP	1 088 529	A2	04/04/2001	
	CO	DE	4 316 971	A1	05/21/1993	
	CP	SU	1 621 912	A1	02/13/1989	

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date, publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	1	Grismer, et al.; <u>A Suture Holder and Separator Attachment to the Starr-Edwards Prosthetic Valve Holders, Surgery, Gynecology & Obstetrics</u> , Pages 583-584, March 1965	
	2	Pavcnik, et al.; <u>Development and Initial Experimental Evaluation of a Prosthetic Aortic Valve for Transcatheter Placement</u> , Cardiovascular Radiology, Vol. 183, Number 1, Pages 151-154	
	3	Bailey, <u>Percutaneous Expandable Prosthetic Valves</u> , VIII—Valvuloplasty, Congenital and Pericardial Heart Disease, Pages 1269-1276.	
	4	"An Introduction to Materials in Medicine," B. Ratner, A. Hoffman, <u>Biomaterials Science</u> , (7.2 Cardiovascular Applications) pp 289	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applic